

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. THURMOND:

S. Res. 156. A resolution recognizing the contributions of the United States Army Air Forces to the United States victory in World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. FRIST, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. MACK):

S. 1073. A bill to establish a national advisory referendum on limiting the terms of Members of Congress at the general election of 1996; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

THE NATIONAL VOTER OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM CONGRESS EFFECTIVELY (VOICE) ON TERM LIMITS ACT OF 1995

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I offer a bill similar to one I introduced in the last Congress. My bill, the National Voter Opportunity To Inform Congress Effectively on Term Limits—or VOICE—Act, would authorize a national advisory referendum on term limits for Members of Congress. It is a companion bill to legislation being introduced today in the House by Congressman PETE HOEKSTRA of Michigan.

In recent years, the American people have come to realize that the seniority system, coupled with the overwhelming electoral advantages of incumbency, has created a class of career politicians—a class not envisioned by our Founding Fathers.

Our Founding Fathers envisioned the Congress as a body of citizen-legislators. People who had trades, professions, or businesses would serve for a period of time, bringing with them experience and fresh ideas to shape the laws that would govern commerce and quality of life.

There has been a vigorous grassroots effort mounting in this country to return us to this vision. Especially over the past few years, the movement to limit congressional terms has gained significant ground. Despite the Congress' reluctance to impose term limits on itself, the people have chosen to press forward without us by passing ballot initiatives to limit the terms of their own Federal representatives. In 23 States—nearly half the country—the people have spoken overwhelmingly and unequivocally that they want the terms of their Congressmen and Senators to be limited.

Last May, the term limits movement suffered a major blow with the Supreme Court's ruling in *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. versus Thornton*. In a 5-to-4 decision, the Court said the State-imposed term limits violate the Constitution and that any effort to limit congressional terms must be done through a constitutional amendment. This ruling effectively overturned all 23 States term-limits laws that had been passed up to now.

The House's failure to pass an amendment last March proves that there is virtually no chance for term limits in this Congress. Even in this Chamber, a recent rollcall survey found that we are still 24 votes shy of having enough support to approve a term-limits amendment. Congress is truly out of touch with America on this issue.

That is why, Mr. President, I feel it is so important that we give every American, in all 50 States, an opportunity to speak directly to their Federal representatives on the term-limits matter. My bill would do just that by conducting a nonbinding, national referendum. It would place a simple and straightforward question on every ballot in the 1996 election, "Should Congress approve a constitutional amendment to limit the number of terms that a Member of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate can serve in office? Yes or No."

Let me hasten to add that this legislation would not create an unfunded Federal mandate. This bill provides that States would be reimbursed at a rate of 4 cents per voter for the cost of putting the question on the ballot. This Federal reimbursement would be offset by corresponding reduction in the franking budget for Members of the House and Senate.

Mr. President, I want to urge my colleagues to join me in giving the American people a voice in the next election on whether the terms of their representatives in the U.S. Congress should be limited. Rather than debating about what we think the American people want and need, let's give them the opportunity to tell us themselves, clearly and directly. It is time we invoke the communicative power of democracy and ask the people what they think. •

By Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN (for herself, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 1074. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for expanding and intensifying activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases with respect to lupus; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

THE LUPUS RESEARCH AMENDMENTS OF 1995

• Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, today, I am introducing with Senators SIMON and INOUE the Lupus Research Amendments of 1995. This bill would provide the funding so desperately needed by NIH to increase current education, prevention, and treatment efforts.

Systemic lupus erythematosus [lupus] is a painful, potentially devastating chronic autoimmune disease that occurs mostly in young women of childbearing age. Lupus causes the body's defense system to malfunction and attack its own healthy organs. Every element of the victim's musculoskeletal system is susceptible, ranging from the skin and joints to the blood, heart, lungs, and kidneys.

Health officials estimate that between 1.4 million and 2 million Americans, 90 percent of whom are female, are afflicted with lupus. Both the cause and a cure for lupus are currently unknown. Treatments can be effective but can lead to adverse side effects which cause severe and sometimes incapacitating pain, making it impossible for victims to maintain jobs and live normal lives. Increased and intensive research, thus, offers the best hope for prevention and better treatment of lupus and its related disabilities.

The Lupus Research Amendments of 1995 would expend clinical research for the discovery and evaluation of new treatments; encourage the coordination of improved screening techniques; and improve information and education programs for health care professionals and the public. In addition, researching the cause of lupus may reveal other abnormalities of the immune system, and this knowledge could help experts better understand related illnesses. It is to this end that I reintroduce this legislation, which authorizes funding of \$20 million for fiscal year 1996 and such sums as may be necessary for both fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

This legislation can make a real difference to the millions of Americans, particularly women, who are afflicted with lupus. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill be included in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1074

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lupus Research Amendment of 1995".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) lupus is a serious, complex, inflammatory, autoimmune disease of particular concern to women;

(2) lupus affects women 9 times more than men;

(3) there are 3 main types of lupus; systemic lupus, a serious form of the disease that affect many parts of the body; discoid lupus, a form of the disease that affects mainly the skin; and drug-induced lupus caused by certain medications;

(4) lupus can be fatal if not detected and treated early;

(5) the disease can simultaneously affect various areas of the body, such as the skin, joints, kidneys, and brain, and can be difficult to diagnose because the symptoms of lupus are similar to those of many other diseases;

(6) lupus disproportionately affects African-American women, as the prevalence of the disease among such women is 3 times the prevalence among white women, and an estimated 1 in 250 African-American women between the ages of 15 and 65 develops the disease;

(7) it has been estimated that over 500,000 Americans have been diagnosed with the disease, and that many more have undiagnosed cases;